Mr. A. Velez

# REPORT FROM AD HOC COMMITTEE TO NEGOTIATE WITH BORICUA COMMITTEE

A meeting between representatives of the Board of Paterson Task Force, representatives of the Boricua Committee, and representatives of Regional OEO was held on September 14, 1970. Those in attendance were:

Paterson Task Force Board

President Louis Gilmore

Mrs. Alice Green
Mr. Julio Rubiani
Rev. O. John Eldred
Mr. Leon Rivera
Mr. John Veal
Mr. Aaron Braverman

Boricua Committee

Mrs. Carmen Diaz
Mr. Amilcar Velez
Mr. Juan Torres

Regional OEO

Mr. Gallagher
Miss Gonzalez
Mr. Jackson
Mr. Pulakos

N.J. Dept. of Community Affairs
Mr. Knight

Staff
Mr. Fred Wilkes

Discussion centered upon the four points previously submitted to Paterson Task Force by the Boricua Committee:

1. Restructuring of the present Board of Directors of the Paterson Task Force.

2a. Initiation of the discussions about the establishment of a delegate agency to serve the Puerto Rican and Spanish community in general, which should be managed by members of said community.

2b. That those positions which are available now because of resignations of Spanish people within the Paterson Task Force, as well as any other which is related to the needs of the Spanish community, be filled with Spanish people until the delegate agency is established.

3. That all employees of the Paterson Task Force who in one way or another participated in the demonstrations, or who stayed home because of these demonstrations, should be paid for those days.

As a result of those discussions, at a meeting held on September 26th, the Ad Hoc Committee prepared the following recommendations. In attendance were: Mr. Braverman, Rev. Eldred and Mr. Rivera.

POINT 1: The committee does not recommend restructuring of the Board but rather encourages an enlarged participation on the Board by representatives from the Spanish-speaking community. This is to be done by:

a. More effectively publicizing that Paterson Task Force Board is composed of six (6) elected representatives from each of the four areas of the Neighborhood Councils. Some vacancies do exist at the present time.

b. More effectively publicizing that it is possible for organizations in the community representing the areas of labor, business, industry, private education, private welfare, religion, or significant minority groups, to petition Paterson Task Force Board to seat a representative on the Board. (Such as was done by the Puerto Rican Professional League.)

c. Publicizing that any of the Aldermen who are members of the Board, but are unable to attend for whatever reasons, can appoint their personal representatives from the community.

d. Making known that current vacancies do exist from several agencies, including the Veritans, the Puerto Rican Professional League, and the Passaic County Narcotics Council.

e. Making known that there is one mayoralty appointment now vacant on the Board

POINT 2a.: The committee sees no need for the development of a new delegate agency because C.A.S.A. was formed in response to the specific request of the Spanish community.

Recognizing that the Boricua Committee, a specific segment of the Spanish community, are expressing concerns about the effectiveness of the special program to the Spanish community, we recommend that the Boricua Committee, in the presence of representatives from Paterson Task Force Board, present these concerns directly to S.A.F.E. and C.A.S.A; further, we recommend that S.A.F.E. and C.A.S.A. respond to these claims, after which Paterson Task Force Board will determine what evaluation of the program is necessary and in order.

POINT 2b.: We oppose a quota system as being undemocratic, but we do recommend that greater efforts be made to recruit Spanish-speaking personnel; for example, advertising in "El Diario" and "El Tiempo."

POINT 3: We recommend that, providing O.E.O. Regulations allow it, employees of Paterson Task Force be paid for the days in question. We are not unmindful of the hardship placed upon some employees because the agency was closed, nor of the fact that services could not be performed because of the closing. However, we feel that the poor who are employed by Paterson Task Force would suffer most and needlessly unless the salaries are paid.

Respectfully submitted,

Mrs. Alice Green
Mr. Aaron Braverman
Mr. Julio Rubiani
Mr. Leonides Rivera
Mr. John Veal

OJE/ab

Rev. O. John Eldred, Chairman

cc: Ad Hoc Committee
Boricua Committee
Mr. Louis Gilmore
Mr. Fred Wilkes
Mr. Arthur Diaz